

## **REMARKS**

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed May 4, 2005 in connection with the above-identified patent application. Detailed arguments in support of patentability of claims 1, 3-9, 11-18 are presented, and re-examination is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16 have been amended. New claims 19-26 have been added. Claims 2 and 10 have been canceled.

### **Claim Objections**

Claims 9-12 were objected to because of several informalities. Claim 9 has been amended to overcome this objection. Claim 10 has been canceled.

### **35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections**

Claims 1-3, 5, 8-11, 13, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sturgeon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,779,874, Sturgeon). Sturgeon was deemed to teach the step of providing an ink cassette and interlock member for mounting on a printer carriage. With respect to claims 1, 8, and 16, Sturgeon was deemed to show an ink cassette 24a and an interlock member 22a for selective attachment to the carriage 30 of a printer. Sturgeon was stated to teach a first and second means (220a, 224a) respectively on the cassette 24a and the interlock member 22a for releasably interengaging the cassette and the interlock member.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that a slot is formed on an upper end of the cassette and a tab is formed on the interlock member for releasably interengaging the cassette and interlock member. Sturgeon does not teach or recite such a configuration. Rather, Sturgeon shows a tab 220a formed on a lower end of the cassette and a slot 224a formed on the key 22a.

The configuration recited in claim 1 teaches away from the operation in Sturgeon of rotating the cassette into the printhead as shown in Figure 5 of Sturgeon. If the tab of the cassette were found at an upper end of the cassette, the rotational installation would not be able to be properly performed. Moreover, Sturgeon teaches a tab

on the cassette and a slot on the printhead, exactly the opposite of the present invention. Thus, for at least these reasons, claim 1 is allowable as amended over the prior art of record. Claims 3-7 depend from claim 1 and are also in condition for allowance. Claim 2 has been cancelled.

Claim 8 has been amended to recite that an inside leg of the interlock member has a tab extending into a chute of the carriage. Claim 8 has also been amended to recite that the tab is cooperative with the slot of the cassette as the cassette slides vertically into the carriage.

As stated for claim 1, Sturgeon does not teach an interlock member with a tab and a cassette with a slot. The Sturgeon cassette also rotates into the printhead as illustrated in Figure 5. In contrast, claim 8 calls for the tab of the interlock member to engage the slot of the cassette as the cassette slides vertically into the carriage. The cassette of Sturgeon rotates into position as shown in Figure 5 in a "toe-heel" installation in which toe portion 140 is installed first, then the cassette is rotated until the rear end 142 is installed. Mounting cover 180 is installed to block the toe end from being inserted after the rear end (as seen in Figure 5 and discussed in column 8, lines 44-67, col. 9, lines 1-12 of the specification). Thus, the tab and slot configuration of Sturgeon cannot interengage during vertically sliding of the cassette. Rather, the cassette must be rotated so that the tab and slot interengage due to the position of cover 180. Thus, claim 8 as amended is patentably distinct over the prior art of record and is in condition for allowance.

Claims 9, 11-15 are dependent upon claim 8 and are also in condition for allowance. Claim 10 has been canceled.

Claim 16 has been amended to recite that the cassette is vertically slid into the carriage chute. The projection and recess interengages as the cartridge slides into the chute. In contrast, as previously discussed for claim 8, Sturgeon teaches a cartridge being rotatably installed into a printhead, and the tab and slot interengage as the cartridge is rotated. Accordingly, claim 16 is in condition for allowance over the prior art of record for the reasons previously presented. Claims 17 and 18 depend from claim 16 and are also in condition for allowance.

With respect to claims 2 and 11, Sturgeon was stated to teach extending tabs

(shown generally in the protruding region between 224b and 224a). Claim 2 has been cancelled. Claim 11 depends from amended claim 8 and is also in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 3, as shown in Figure 7, Sturgeon was deemed to teach the tab (the protruding region between 224b and 224a) having a quadrilateral profile (from the perspective of a viewer whose line of vision is perpendicular to the narrow front side of the tab). Claim 3 depends from amended claim 1 and is in condition for allowance.

With respect to claims 5 and 13, Sturgeon was considered to show the structure of tabs to allow the insertion of specific types of ink cassettes while preventing the insertion of other types of ink cassettes. Claim 5 depends from amended claim 1 and claim 13 depends from amended claim 8 and each is accordingly in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 10, Sturgeon was stated to show an ink cassette 24a and an interlock member 22a for selective attachment. The interlock was deemed to have an inside leg, an outside leg, and a connecting member shown generally at U-shaped region 238. The inside leg was deemed to have an extending tab (region between 224b and 224a) for releasably inter-engaging the cassette and the interlock member. Claim 10 has been canceled.

With respect to claim 9, Sturgeon was deemed to show the carriage chute having an upper peripheral front edge 72. The inside leg and the outside leg were stated to slidably engage opposing surfaces of the front side of the chute, and the connecting member seated upon a portion of the peripheral edge when the interlock member is connected to the chute. Claim 9 depends from amended claim 8 and is in condition for allowance.

### 35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 4, 6, 7, 12, 14, 15, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sturgeon in view of Stewart (U.S. Patent 6,030,134). Sturgeon was stated to teach the recited method and apparatus for discriminating among different families of ink cassettes. However, Sturgeon does not teach a family of ink cassettes that use edible ink. The Examiner stated that Stewart teaches an inkjet printer similar to Sturgeon that involves the use of edible ink. The Examiner concluded that it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use an edible ink family.

Claims 4, 6, 7 depend from amended claim 1; claims 12, 14, 15 depend from amended claim 8; and claims 17 and 18 depend from amended claim 16 and accordingly are each in condition for allowance. Moreover, Stewart merely teaches the use of edible ink; it does not teach or suggest the use of a tab and slot arrangement for indexing specific cassettes to printheads. Sturgeon does not teach or suggest the use of edible ink. Thus, it would not have been obvious to add edible ink cassettes to the operation shown in Sturgeon.

New claims 19-26 have been added.

Claim 19 depends from claim 1 and calls for the interlock member to comprise a clip which is releasably secured to an upper wall of the printer carriage. Claim 20 depends from claim 9 and calls for the interlock member interlock member to further comprise a tab extending from the clip. Claim 21 depends from claim 19 and calls for clip to comprise a first leg and a second leg, wherein one of the legs is longer than the other of the legs. Claim 22 depends from claim 1 and calls for the slot to comprise tapered walls and the tab comprises tapered surfaces which frictionally engage the tapered walls of the slot to guide the cassette into the carriage. Claim 23 depends from claim 1 and calls for the cassette to be inserted directly into the cartridge as the slot engages the tab without rotation of the cassette. Claim 24 depends from claim 1 and calls for the interlock member to comprise a first leg member and a second leg member extending from the first leg member, wherein the first leg member and the second leg member are of uniform thickness. Claim 25 depends from claim 24 and calls for the first leg to comprise a tab extending therefrom for selectively engaging a slot in a cartridge having edible ink therein. Claim 26 depends from claim 25 and calls for the tab to prevent a cartridge with non-edible ink from being received within the carriage. Claims 19-26 each depends from claim 1 which as amended is in condition for allowance; thus, claims 19-26 are also in condition for allowance.

**CONCLUSION**

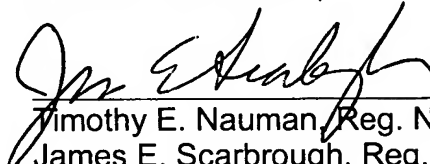
In view of the above amendments and comments, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Allowance of all pending claims and early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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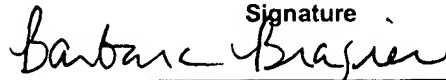
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